



DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH

MAIN EXAMINATION: DECEMBER 2016

<u>COURSE:</u>	ENGLISH 1B	<u>TIME:</u>	3 HOURS
<u>COURSE CODE:</u>	ENG1B21/ENG1BB1	<u>MARKS:</u>	200

EXAMINERS:

1. Dr B. Grogan
Ms N-L. Wales
Ms D. Labuschagne
2. Prof. C. MacKenzie

THIS PAPER CONSISTS OF SEVEN (7) PAGES

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. **THIS PAPER CONSISTS OF TWO (2) QUESTIONS: YOU MAY ANSWER EITHER QUESTION 1A OR QUESTION 1B; QUESTION 2 IS COMPULSORY.**
2. **THIS PAPER IS THREE (3) HOURS IN LENGTH.**
3. **PLEASE ANSWER EACH QUESTION IN A SEPARATE ANSWER BOOK, AND WRITE THE NUMBER OF THE QUESTION ON THE FRONT OF THE ANSWER BOOK.**
4. **EACH ESSAY THAT YOU WRITE SHOULD CONSIST OF FIVE PARAGRAPHS: AN INTRODUCTION, THREE BODY PARAGRAPHS AND A CONCLUSION.**

QUESTION 1: POETRY

Question 1a)

With reference to the following extracts from Warsan Shire's "Home", write an essay that demonstrates how some of the poetic devices employed within the poem contribute to its representation of the refugee experience, especially the refugee's ambivalent feelings about "home".

Your essay should discuss the following:

1. two metaphors describing the refugee's experience of the home country;
2. the personification of the home country; and
3. the repetition of the phrase "no one" and its significance to the message of the poem.

Warsan Shire, "Home"

no one leaves home unless
home is the mouth of a shark
you only run for the border
when you see the whole city running as well

your neighbours running faster than you
breath bloody in their throats
the boy you went to school with
who kissed you dizzy behind the old tin factory
is holding a gun bigger than his body
you only leave home
when home won't let you stay.

5

10

no one leaves home unless home chases you
fire under feet

hot blood in your belly
 it's not something you ever thought of doing 15
 until the blade burnt threats into
 your neck
 and even then you carried the anthem under
 your breath
 only tearing up your passport in an airport toilets 20
 sobbing as each mouthful of paper
 made it clear that you wouldn't be going back.

you have to understand,
 that no one puts their children in a boat
 unless the water is safer than the land. 25

[...]

i want to go home,
 but home is the mouth of a shark 75
 home is the barrel of the gun
 and no one would leave home
 unless home chased you to the shore
 unless home told you
 to quicken your legs 80
 leave your clothes behind
 crawl through the desert
 wade through the oceans
 drown
 save 85
 be hunger
 beg
 forget pride
 your survival is more important

no one leaves home until home is a sweaty voice 90
 in your ear

saying –
 leave,
 run away from me now
 i don't know what i've become
 but i know that anywhere
 is safer than here

95

(100)

OR

Question 1b)

In Langston Hughes's poem, "Theme for English B", the speaker responds to racial segregation in America by claiming human interconnection over division. In other words, he challenges racism by asserting a humanist perspective.

Discuss how the speaker expresses his humanist perspective. Pay attention to:

- Lines 17 – 20, particularly the use of personification and call-and-response;
- Lines 34 – 36, particularly the use of chiasmus ("crossing", repetition in reverse order);
- The effect of the dash on the speaker's tone throughout the poem.

Langston Hughes, "Theme for English B"

The Instructor said,
 Go home and write
 a page tonight.
 And let that page come out of you —
 Then, it will be true.

5

I wonder if it's that simple?

I am twenty-two, colored, born in Winston-Salem.

I went to school there, in Durham, then here
to this college on the hill above Harlem.

I am the only colored student in my class. 10

The steps from the hill lead down into Harlem,
through a park, then I cross St. Nicholas,

Eighth Avenue, Seventh, and I come to the Y,
the Harlem Branch Y, where I take an elevator
up to my room, sit down, and write this page: 15

It's not easy to know what is true for you or me
at twenty-two, my age. But I guess I'm what

I feel and see and hear, Harlem, I hear you:
hear you, hear me—we two—you, me, talk on this page.

(I hear New York too.) Me—who? 20

Well, I like to eat, sleep, drink, and be in love.

I like to work, read, learn, and understand life.

I like a pipe for a Christmas present,
or records—Bessie, bop, or Bach.

I guess being colored doesn't make me *not* like 25
the same things other folks like who are other races.

So will my page be colored that I write?

Being me, it will not be white.

But it will be
a part of you, instructor. 30

You are white—

yet a part of me, as I am a part of you.

That's American.

Sometimes perhaps you don't want to be a part of me.

Nor do I often want to be a part of you. 35

But we are, that's true!

As I learn from you,

I guess you learn from me—

Although you're older—and white—

and somewhat more free.

40

This is my page for English B.

(100)

QUESTION 2 (COMPULSORY): THE CRUCIBLE

Carefully read the following extract, taken from the final scene of the play. Starting with a detailed analysis of this extract, discuss Miller's characterization of John Proctor, focusing on 1) his integrity, 2) his tragic flaw, and 3) his ultimate redemption.

PROCTOR: You will not use me! I am no Sarah Good or Tituba, I am John Proctor! You will not use me! It is no part of salvation that you should use me!

DANFORTH: I do not wish to—

PROCTOR: I have three children—how may I teach them to walk like men in the world, and I sold my friends?

DANFORTH: You have not sold your friends—

PROCTOR: Beguile me not! I blacken all of them when this is nailed to the church the very day they hang for silence!

DANFORTH: Mr. Proctor, I must have good and legal proof that you—

PROCTOR: You are the high court, your word is good enough! Tell them I confessed myself; say Proctor broke his knees and wept like a woman; say what you will, but my name cannot—

DANFORTH, with suspicion: It is the same, is it not? If I report it or you sign to it?

PROCTOR, he knows it is insane: No, it is not the same! What others say and what I sign to is not the same!

DANFORTH: Why? Do you mean to deny this confession when you are free?

PROCTOR: I mean to deny nothing!

DANFORTH: Then explain to me, Mr. Proctor, why you will not let—

PROCTOR, with a cry of his whole soul: Because it is my name! Because I cannot have another in my life! Because I lie and sign myself to lies! Because I am not worth the dust on the feet of them that hang! How may I live without my name? I have given you my soul; leave me my name!

(100)

END OF PAPER